

**CROWN HIM**  
*with many*  
**CROWNS**



**FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
16 EAST FIFTH STREET  
ROANOKE RAPIDS, NORTH CAROLINA

Website: [www.fpc-rr.org](http://www.fpc-rr.org)

Church Office: (252) 537-4018 [firstpresbyterianchurchrr@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresbyterianchurchrr@gmail.com)

Rev. Sandoval: (252) 676-9857 [fperrminister@gmail.com](mailto:fperrminister@gmail.com)

[To text Rev. Sandoval use (336) 420-0388]

Church Office Hours: Wednesday – Thursday 9:00 am – 1:00 pm

# SERVICE OF THE LORD'S DAY

NOVEMBER 22, 2020

ELEVEN O'CLOCK

## CHRIST THE KING SUNDAY

### GATHERING AROUND THE WORD

#### ORGAN PRELUDE

*(Please use the prelude as a time to quietly prepare for worship)*

#### CHIMING OF THE LORD'S DAY

#### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: "I will search for my sheep," says the Lord.

**All: Like lost lambs or scattered sheep, the Lord seeks us and calls us home.**

One: "I will gather them from far and near," says the Lord.

**All: A cherished fold, a beloved flock, the Lord sustains us and gives us rest.**

One: "I will be their shepherd," says the Lord.

**All: We listen for the voice of the God who seeks us, and follow with devotion and gratitude!**

#### OPENING PRAYER

One: You raised up your Son, O God, and seated him at your right hand as the Shepherd and King who seeks what is lost, binds up what is wounded, and strengthens what is weak. Empowered by the Spirit, grant that we may share with others that which we have received from your hand, to the honor of Jesus Christ our Lord.

**All: Amen.**

HYMN 268

*Crown Him with Many Crowns*

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#### CALL TO CONFESSION

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**God of mercy, who has compassion for the lost and the least, in**

disbelief and denial, we ask: “When did we see you among us?” We should have seen you in the classmate on the playground whom we did not invite to join our game. Or in the stranger on the sidewalk whom we crossed the street to avoid. Or in the neighbor at the nursing home, whom we left to carry her pain alone. We should have seen you in the man begging for work or a warm meal, in the woman struggling to overcome addiction, in the child seeking refuge from the terrors of violence. But, instead, we turned away. Forgive us, Lord. Break our hearts for what breaks yours, and give us compassion and courage to respond to the suffering of this world.

TIME FOR SILENCE

*(We ask for forgiveness for our individual faults)*

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

THE PEACE

One: Since God has forgiven us in Christ, let us forgive one another.  
The peace of our Lord Jesus Christ be with you all.

All: **And also with you.**

## PROCLAIMING THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE READING

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

For thus says the Lord God: I myself will search for my sheep, and will seek them out. As shepherds seek out their flocks when they are among their scattered sheep, so I will seek out my sheep. I will rescue them from all the places to which they have been scattered on a day of clouds and thick darkness. I will bring them out from the peoples and gather them from the countries, and will bring them into their own land; and I will feed them on the mountains of Israel, by the watercourses, and in all the inhabited parts of the land. I will feed them with good pasture, and the mountain heights of Israel shall be their pasture; there they shall lie down in good grazing land, and they shall feed on rich pasture on the mountains of Israel. I myself will be the shepherd of my sheep, and I will make them lie down, says the Lord God. I will seek the lost, and I will bring back the strayed, and I will bind up the injured, and I will strengthen the weak, but the fat and the strong I will destroy. I will feed them with justice.

Therefore, thus says the Lord God to them: I myself will judge between the fat sheep and the lean sheep. Because you pushed with flank and shoulder, and butted at all the weak animals with your horns until you scattered them far and wide, I will save my flock, and they shall no longer be ravaged; and I will judge between sheep and sheep. I will set up over them one shepherd, my servant David, and he shall feed them: he shall feed them and be their shepherd. And I, the Lord, will be their God, and my servant David shall be prince among them; I, the Lord, have spoken.

One: The Word of the Lord

All: **Thanks be to God**

THE WORD IN MUSIC

*He is King of Kings*

Spiritual

SERMON

## RESPONDING TO THE WORD

### AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**Biblical visions and images of the rule of Christ, such as a heavenly city, the household of God, a new heaven and earth, a marriage feast, and an unending day culminate in the image of the kingdom. The kingdom represents God's triumph over all that resists the divine will and disrupts God's creation. Already God's reign is present as a ferment in the world, stirring hope in all people and preparing the world to receive its ultimate judgment and redemption. With an urgency born of this hope, the church applies itself to present tasks and strives for a better world. It does not identify limited progress with the kingdom of God on earth, nor does it despair in the face of disappointment and defeat. In steadfast hope, the church looks beyond all partial achievement to the final triumph of God.**

*- Adapted from the Confession of 1967, (BOC 9.54–55)*

### INVITATION TO THE LORD'S TABLE

#### GREAT THANKSGIVING

One: The Lord be with you.

All: **And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: **We lift them to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

One: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, eternal God, creator and ruler of the universe ... Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with the servants around heaven's throne and with all the faithful of every time and place, who forever sing to the glory of your name:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.**

One: You are holy, O God of majesty, and blessed is Jesus Christ, your Son, our Lord ... With thanksgiving we offer our very selves to you to be a living and holy sacrifice dedicated to your service. Great is the mystery of faith:

**All: Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.**

One: Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these your gifts of bread and wine that the bread we break and the cup we bless may be the communion of the body and blood of Christ ... Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honor are yours, almighty God, now and forever.

**All: Amen.**

## LORD'S PRAYER

### BREAKING OF THE BREAD

The Lord Jesus, on the night of his arrest, took bread, and after giving thanks to God, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying: Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me. In the same way he took the cup, saying: This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me. Every time you eat this bread and drink this cup, you proclaim the saving death of the risen Lord, until he comes.

### COMMUNION OF THE PEOPLE

One: The body of Christ broken for us:

**All: Thanks be to God.** (The bread is eaten.)

One: The blood of Christ shed for us:

**All: Amen.** (The cup is drank.)

### PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

# BEARING AND FOLLOWING THE WORD INTO THE WORLD

HYMN 269

*Lead On, O King Eternal!*

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CHARGE

BLESSING

One: The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: **Alleluia! Amen.**

CHIMING OF THE TRINITY

POSTLUDE



**Christ the King Sunday** celebrates the full authority of **Christ** as **King** and Lord of the universe.

Officially called "The Feast of Our Lord **Jesus Christ** the **King**," it is celebrated on the final **Sunday** of Ordinary Time, the **Sunday** before Advent.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**We will be streaming the worship service exclusively through Facebook going forward. It is now possible to watch live streams on Facebook without having a Facebook account. The link to the stream is below. The link will also be posted on the home page of the church's web site. If you have trouble using this link, let Joe know after the service.**

**<https://www.facebook.com/fpc.rapids/posts/10208101573212986>**

Offerings can be made by mailing your checks to the church at 16 East 5th Street, RR, NC 27870 or placing them in the letter slot in the Administration Building. Although the church is not open physically, the work of the church continues, so please remember your offerings.

**We will celebrate the Sacrament of the Lord's Supper during our online streamed worship service this morning. Please have your elements ready when you join us for worship. Any form of bread and drink is acceptable, as long as it doesn't take attention away from communion.**

### **OPERATION CHRISTMAS SHOEBOXES is in process!**

This year we will donate our boxes to the John 3:16 center. Boxes will be available with a suggestion list inside in the entry way of the Administrative Building.

If you are unable to shop due to Covid-19 but still want to participate, you can write a check to John 3:16 with "Christmas shoeboxes" on the memo line and mail it to:

John 3:16 Center,  
PO Box 1541  
Littleton, NC 27850

**BOXES ARE DUE ON THURSDAY, DECEMBER 3rd.  
SOMEONE WILL BE AT THE CHURCH OFFICE BETWEEN  
9:00 AM AND 12 NOON TO COLLECT THEM. THE BOXES  
WILL BE DELIVERED THE NEXT DAY!**

***HAPPY THANKSGIVING!***

## Prayers for Healing of Friends & Families of the Church

Priscilla Ricks  
Bill Howell  
Glenn & Gayle Garner, @ Meals on Wheels  
Sally Ray Warren  
David and LaNae Grimes  
Sandra Stephenson  
Mary Francis Fisher  
Harrison West  
Ellen Burnett  
Diane Bone  
Eula Cutler  
B.T. Brown  
Doug Hayes  
Bill Davis  
Betsy Medlin  
Linda Ray  
Roger Fuester  
Tim Hardy  
Frank Lonesky  
Jeff Peedin  
Dee Campbell  
Nancy Elias  
Diana and Jeff Dillard  
Matt and Kelly Small, loss of baby boy Luke

### Concerns Outside of our Community

- \*SYRIA and YEMEN
- \*SOMALIA, drought, famine, anarchy
- \*EGYPT and LIBYA, political unrest
- \*ISRAEL, PALESTINE, GAZA peaceful coexistence
- \*IRAQ, AFGHANISTAN, security
- \*USA, war in Syria, Iraq & Afghanistan
- \*NIGERIA, abducted Chibok school girls
- \*Ukrainian people victimized by foreign aggression
- \*People of Sudan
- \*Victims of gun violence in our country
- \*People who are effected by Covid-19



*Our Christian sympathy is extended to the family and friends of Jim and Mary Small upon the death of their unborn grandson, Lucas Henry Small.*



**Please take a look at our prayer list. If you have someone that needs to be on the prayer list or someone that needs to come off, please contact Tammy at [firstpresbyterianchurchrr@gmail.com](mailto:firstpresbyterianchurchrr@gmail.com) or call me at home (586-1818).**

# Crown Him with Many Crowns 268

1 Crown him with man - y crowns, the Lamb up - on his throne;  
 2 Crown him the Lord of love; be - hold his hands and side,  
 3 Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a scep - ter sways  
 4 Crown him the Lord of years, the po - ten - tate of time;

hark, how the heaven-ly an - them drowns all mu - sic but its own!  
 rich wounds, yet vis - i - ble a - bove, in beau - ty glo - ri - fied:  
 from pole to pole, that wars may cease, ab - sorbed in prayer and praise.  
 cre - a - tor of the roll - ing spheres, in - ef - fa - bly sub - lime.

A - wake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
 no an - gel in the sky can ful - ly bear that sight,  
 His reign shall know no end; and round his pierc - ed feet  
 All hail, Re - deem - er, hail! For thou hast died for me;

and hail him as thy match-less King through all e - ter - ni - ty.  
 but down-ward bends his burn-ing eye at mys - ter - ies so bright.  
 fair flowers of par - a - dise ex - tend their fra-grance ev - er sweet.  
 thy praise shall nev - er, nev - er fail through-out e - ter - ni - ty.

This text is so familiar that it is easy to miss all its paradox, mystery, suffering, and beauty; it rewards careful reading and meditation outside corporate worship. The tune's composer, chapel organist at Windsor Castle, had much experience in creating a royal sound.

TEXT: Matthew Bridges, 1851  
 MUSIC: George Job Elvey, 1868

DIADEMATA  
 SMD

## 269 Lead On, O King Eternal!

1 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal! The day of march has come;  
 2 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal, till sin's fierce war shall cease,  
 3 Lead on, O King e - ter - nal: we fol - low, not with fears,

hence-forth in fields of con - quest your tents shall be our home.  
 and ho - li - ness shall whis - per the sweet a - men of peace;  
 for glad-ness breaks like morn - ing wher - e'er your face ap - pears;

Through days of prep - a - ra - tion your grace has made us strong,  
 for not with swords' loud clash - ing, nor roll of stir - ring drums;  
 your cross is lift - ed o'er us; we jour - ney in its light.

and now, O King e - ter - nal, we lift our bat - tle song.  
 with deeds of love and mer - cy the heav - en - ly king - dom comes.  
 The crown a - waits the con - quest; lead on, O God of might!

Not everything that looks like a battle ends up being one. This text, written for a seminary graduation, works well with its martial tune in the first stanza; but later stanzas turn from such imagery and focus on "deeds of love and mercy" and courage for life's journey.